

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11, 13, 23 and 25-28 are now pending in this application. Claims 1 and 23 are independent claims. Claims 1 and 23 have been amended. Claims 2, 9, 12, 14-22, 24 and 29-31 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 13, 23 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Idleman et al., United States Patent Number: 5,274,645 (hereinafter: Idleman), in view of Weng, United States Patent Number: 5,265,104 (hereinafter: Weng), in further view of Krueger, United States Patent Number: 5,331,646 (hereinafter: Krueger). (Pending Office Action, Page 4). Claims 11 and 26-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Idleman, Weng and Krueger, in view of Iwatani, United States Patent Number: 6,023,780 (hereinafter: Iwatani). (Pending Office Action, Page 5). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

“To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” (emphasis added) (MPEP § 2143). “If an independent claim is non-obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is non-obvious.” (emphasis added) *In re Fine*, 837 F. 2d 1071, 5USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1 and 23 include elements that are not disclosed, taught or suggested by any of the references cited by the Patent Office, either alone or in combination.

Independent Claims 1 and 23 of the present invention each generally recite a method for data recovery in a disk drive system, including:

“debugging the system via implementation of an associated volume logical block address range included with at least one of the read data, the generated error detection and correction code and the error detection and correction code stored as metadata”

In the present invention, at least one of the read data, the generated error detection and correction code, and the error detection and correction code stored as metadata may include information such as an associated volume logical block address range. (Present Application, Page 8, Lines 26-27). Further, the associated logical block address range may be utilized for debugging of the system. (Present Application, Page 8, Lines 26-27). Nowhere in the cited references, either alone or in combination, are the above-referenced elements of Independent Claims 1 and 23 of the present invention either disclosed, taught or suggested.

Based on the rationale above, Applicant contends that none of the references cited by the Patent Office against the present invention, either alone or in combination, teach, disclose or suggest the above-referenced elements as claimed in Claims 1 and 23 of the present application and therefore, the above-cited references do not preclude patentability of the present invention under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant further contends that given the advantages provided by the present invention (i.e., promoting ease of debugging of the system), it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the present invention to combine or modify any of the above-cited references to arrive at the present invention as claimed. As a result, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established for independent Claims 1 and 23. Thus, independent Claims 1 and 23 are believed allowable. Further, Claims 3-8, 10, 11 and 13 (which depend from Claim 1) and Claims 25-28 (which depend from Claim 23) are also believed allowable.

CONCLUSION

In light of the forgoing, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

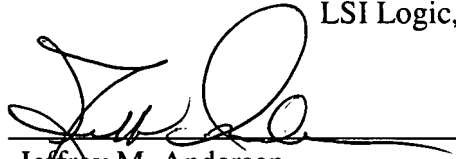
Appl. No. 10/066,270

Amendment and Response to Final Office Action dated March 20, 2007

Respectfully submitted on behalf of

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Dated: May 21, 2007

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